

## **Singapore - Revised application procedure for the export of additional meat and egg products from already authorised processing plants**

(48/01) The German Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Safety (BVL) has informed about the simplification of the Singapore Food Agency's accreditation procedure for meat and egg processing establishments as well as information on certification to be applied from 01 December 2024. Until now, the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) has required approved establishments that wish to export additional processed products beyond what was originally approved to obtain approval to export these additional processed meat and egg products. In a letter dated 18 November 2024, the Singapore Food Agency (SFA) informed the BVL about the further development of the procedure for the export of meat and egg products from already accredited processing plants. The new procedure applies from 1 December 2024 and includes the changes described below.

The SFA will switch from a product-based authorisation to a framework authorisation based on the processing form and animal species of the processed products intended for export. As a result, from 1 December 2024, it will no longer be necessary to submit applications for the export of additional processed meat and egg products from SFA-approved processing establishments if these products have the same processing form and animal species as those already approved. An application is only required for the export of new forms of processing and/or animal species. The current requirements for the listing of individual products in the veterinary certificate remain unchanged. In order to avoid misunderstandings, SFA requests that the form of processing (e.g. processed with or without heat treatment) be indicated next to the individual products to be exported in the certificate.

Furthermore, the SFA has expanded the definition of poultry to include the following eight species: chicken, turkey, duck, geese, quail, young pigeon, guinea fowl and pheasant.

## **Current status of the Mercosur agreement**

(48/02) Talks on a free trade agreement between the European Union and the Mercosur states (Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay) have been ongoing for 25 years. Another round of negotiations will take place on 5 and 6 December 2024 in Montevideo, Uruguay. After the chief negotiators from the EU and Mercosur made constructive progress last week, there are increasing signs that the agreement is about to be finalised. EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and EU Trade Commissioner Maroš Šefčovič have travelled to Uruguay. The free trade agreement could be signed as early as today.

The agreement would create one of the world's largest free trade zones with 715 million inhabitants. The German government and large sections of the German economy are in favour of the agreement. Resistance comes from France, Austria, Italy and Poland, who do not want to support the current version of the treaty negotiations. There are fears of competition for domestic agriculture. In particular, there is great concern about cheap poultry and beef from South America. The increasing deforestation of the Amazon rainforest is also cited by critics as an argument against the agreement. One argument in favour of the agreement is that it is seen as one of the last chances to counter China's ever-increasing influence on South America.

### **EUDR - status and note**

(48/03) On 3 December 2024, the European Commission, the Council and the European Parliament (EP) agreed to postpone the date of application of the EUDR. The substantive changes demanded by the EP, such as a ‘zero-risk category’, will not materialise. However, in order for the postponement to take legal effect before the still valid date of application on 30 December, the Council and the European Parliament must now give their approval in a timely manner. The Environment Committee, which is the lead committee in the European Parliament, is expected to make a corresponding recommendation to the plenary on 4 December.

The law will then have to be applied by large companies from 30 December 2025 and by micro and small companies from 30 June 2026.

We would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to the following:

In accordance with Article 1(1) of the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR), it contains provisions

*‘...for the placing and making available on the Union market and for the export from the Union of relevant products listed in Annex I containing, fed with or produced using relevant raw materials, namely bovine animals, cocoa, coffee, oil palm, rubber, soya and wood...’.*

The EUDR only applies to products that are explicitly listed in Annex I with HS code or CN code. All products that are not listed in Annex I of the EUDR are not covered by the regulation. There is therefore no legal obligation for them to fulfil the requirements of the EUDR. This is also expressly explained in the FAQs on the EUDR under point 2.1.

The FAQs can be found here: [https://green-business.ec.europa.eu/deforestation-regulation-implementation\\_en](https://green-business.ec.europa.eu/deforestation-regulation-implementation_en)

The EUDR text can be found here: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32023R1115>

### **Current situation on African swine fever**

(48/04) A wild boar carcass was found in the northern part of the Rhine-Hunsrück district on 26 November 2024. The national reference laboratory, the Friedrich Löffler Institute, has confirmed the detection of the African swine fever (ASF) virus.

According to current estimates, however, the animal originated from an active ASF area located around 100 kilometres upstream on the banks of the Rhine and was driven downstream by the river. Against this background and in consultation with the responsible ministry, no restricted zones have been set up around the location where the animal was found. So far, no restrictions are to be imposed either.

Nevertheless, measures were taken to confirm and prove the absence of the disease around the location where it was found. For example, immediately after the preliminary positive ASF result was announced on 28 November 2024, drones were deployed to search a total of 1,850 hectares on both the left and right banks of the Rhine around the location where the disease was found in the districts of Rhine-Hunsrück-Kreis, Mayen-Koblenz and Rhine-Lahn-Kreis. No further carcasses have been found so far.

### **Current information on highly pathogenic avian influenza**

(48/05) In Lower Saxony, Germany) the AI virus was confirmed in a turkey farm in the district of Friesland in the municipality of Wangerland on 29 November 2024. Around 9,300 turkey cockerels, which are around 18 weeks old, are affected. The corresponding restricted zones were set up and the animals were

ordered to be killed. In addition, a contact farm with approx. 19,000 turkey poult is being evacuated as a precautionary measure.

**Annex:**

- Singapur\_Annex\_Revised Procedures for Export of Additional Processed Meat and Egg Products

**Imprint**

Editor: European Poultry, Egg and Game Association (EPEGA),

Am Weidendamm 1A, DE 10117 Berlin

Manager: Christine Amling/Sebastian Werren

Tel.: +49 30 590099-562, E-Mail: [info@epEGA.org](mailto:info@epEGA.org), Internet: <http://www.epEGA.org>

The information letter is prepared with the utmost care, but we exclude liability. Reports are confidential and for personal use only.